



Frederick County Commission For Women

5370 Public Safety Place, 3rd Floor

Frederick, MD 21704

(301) 600-1066

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www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/fccfw

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Public Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2016

*(postponed from original meeting date February 9, 2016
due to increment weather)*

COMMISSIONERS

Annie Jones
President

Michelle Nusum-Smith
Vice President

Sharon Dobson
Recorder

Evelyn Stephenson
Treasurer

Christine Ferguson
Past President

Constance Baptist
Nina Carr
Rosario Campos
Karen Czapanskiy
Whitney Duck
Amanda Fleet
Adrijana Parsell
Chloe Scott
Olga Hernandez-Smith
Shellome Walters

*The Commission for
Women meets the
second Tuesday of every
month (except July) at
7:00pm. The public is
invited.*

The Commission for
Women is a program of
the Frederick County
Government

Commissioners Present: Annie Jones, Sharon Dobson, Rosario Campos, Olga Hernandez-Smith, Nina Carr, Christine Ferguson, Evelyn Stephenson, Constance Baptist, Amanda Fleet and Karen Czapanskiy

Commissioners Absent, Chloe Scott, Whitney Duck, Adrijana Parsell, Shellome Walters and Michelle Nusum-Smith

Guests: Theresa Smith, Marnica Johnson (CFW Intern), Diana Carrillo, Valerie Dougherty, Brinley Holmes, Paula del Valle Torres (CFW intern), Karen Smith (speaker), Arti Shah, Deepti Dave, Pat Rosensteel and Lakshmi Darbha.

President Annie Jones called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. A quorum was present at this time.

I. Executive Committee Report

- Guests in attendance acknowledge, introduction of guests and commissioners.
- The December 2015 and January 2016 Minutes were approved.
- Guest Speakers: Karen Smith-Racicot, Women's Business Network of Frederick. The Women's Business Network was established in 2000 to inform, encourage and support women in their quest to grow their professional career or business. They hold a monthly luncheon featuring an educational topic. In addition to these luncheons, they also hold 2 events. The May event is a business expo and the Fall event is "Steps to Success." The Commission for Women will start a dialog with regard to the students of the SheLEADS project securing possible summer internships with some members of the Women's Business Network.
- **Recruiting Committee** Discussion regarding the role of the Recruiting Committee. Commissioner's Nina Carr and Amanda Fleet were added as members of the Recruiting Committee.
- **Financial Update**
 - i. The 4th Quarter financial report was discussed.
- **Executive Committee Nominations** The Executive Committee election will be held at the March 2016 meeting. A description was given of each office. The following individuals were nominated:
 - i. President – Sharon Dobson
 - ii. Vice President – Constance Baptist
 - iii. Recorder – Amanda Fleet
 - iv. Treasurer – Evelyn Stephenson, Assistant Treasurer – Nina CarrNominations are still open.

II. Old Business

- **Leadership Alliance Dinner** (Thursday, March 24, 2016). The award recipients were announced. They are: Elizabeth Chung, Woman of Excellence Award, Gabrielle Farrell,

Our Mission: To create a stronger community by addressing challenges and fostering unlimited opportunities for all women.

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Rev. 9/7/15



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Outstanding Student Leader Award and Valerie Dougherty, Unsung Hero Award.

Commissioners and volunteers were reminded to register and invite at least one guest.

- **Update on Human Trafficking Committee activities**

- i. The Committee continues to meet regularly on the first Monday of each month at 6pm in Winchester Hall.
- ii. One of our volunteers sponsored the purchase of some films that are available to screen or borrow. These films will be stored at the CFW office.
- iii. Human Trafficking Survivor lecture and book reading, Wednesday, April 20 from 12:30-1:45 at FCC.

1. FCC, Heartly House, and the FCCFW will collaborate in coordinating and publicizing the event.

- **2016 Hispanic Commission Legislative Agenda Forum.** At the current time, the Governor is focusing on businesses and not individual needs.
- **Listen to the Rhythm of your Heart** Several Commissioners and Volunteers assisted with this event to promote Women's Health.

- **SheLEADS**

- i. The final session was held on Friday, February 12.
- ii. We will soon begin planning the next phases of our program. We are considering our next steps for the existing participants, including possible mentorship and a summer leadership series. We are also considering how to build on the experience of this years' program for next year with potentially more participants, more or longer sessions, and/or additional schools. There has been a request to also bring this program to Walkersville High School. Some of the participants are looking for summer internships and mentors. Discussion regarding approaching the Woman-to-Woman Mentoring Program.

III New Business

- **Commissioner announcements**

- **April 2, 2016** HIV Coalition sponsoring "Welcoming Frederick" at FCC
- **April 14, 2016** "Everything you Wanted to know about AIDS/HIV but were Afraid to Ask" Hood College
- **June 25, 2016** AIDS Walk
- **April 6, 2016** City of Frederick Sexual Assault Proclamation, City Hall, 3:00pm
- **Overview of Sakhee for You program** This is a program that serves to educate, enrich and empower women from Southeast Asia.

III. Adjournment With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23pm.

Next Public Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 7 p.m. 3rd Floor of Winchester Hall

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